

Name _____

The Hamster Havoc

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Mr. Thompson was initially afraid of animals likely due to a phobia or past experiences. He overcame his fear by facing it head-on when he had to take care of Whiskers, the class hamster. Through the process, he gained confidence and realized that his fear was unfounded.
2. Answers may vary. Some students might say they would have felt scared initially but would try to follow the instructions carefully. They might also mention that they would have asked for help from others or researched how to care for the pet.
3. The students were amazed because they saw Mr. Thompson conquer his fear and develop a fondness for Whiskers. They witnessed his personal growth and transformation, which inspired them.
4. Answers will vary. Students may share personal experiences such as overcoming a fear of swimming, public speaking, or trying a new activity. They can describe the situation, the steps they took to overcome the fear or challenge, and how they felt afterward.

